

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended): A method for sending an E-mail wherein an agent of a sender of the E-mail is displayed on a screen and the behavior of the agent of the sender is managed by agent parameters;

and wherein on accepting a sending command for commanding sending of an E-mail, agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender are annexed to the main text of the mail having an appended mail header for sending the E-mail;

and wherein after the E-mail is sent, the agent of the sender is not displayed on the screen and the agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender is not appended to the E-mail, so that the agent of the sender is set to be absent until a pre-set time elapses.

2. (currently amended): The method for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 1 wherein the agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender are automatically generated after lapse of the pre-set time.

3. (currently amended): The method for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 1 wherein a single E-mail is sent by a single agent of the sender.

4. (currently amended): The method for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 2 wherein the agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender include the sending date and time information and can be annexed to the main text of an E-mail sent next after lapse of the pre-set time based on the sending date and time information.

5. (previously presented): The method for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 1 wherein the agent parameters are changed by learning function.

6. (currently amended): The method for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 1 wherein the behavior of the agent of the sender is managed by the agent parameters including environmental information.

7. (currently amended): The method for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 1 wherein a sending command for designating sending an E-mail by a single agent of the sender and a sending command for designating sending plural E-mails by a single second agent of the sender are selectively accepted; and wherein on accepting the sending command for designating sending an E-mail by a single agent of the sender, the agent parameters determining the agent behavior are annexed to the main text of the E-mail for sending the E-mail.

8. (currently amended): The method for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 1 wherein when the agent of the sender whose behavior is determined by the agent parameters is absent, the E-mail is sent by the second agent of the sender which can be designated sending plural E-mails.

9. (currently amended): An E-mail sending method wherein an agent of a sender of the E-mail is displayed on a screen and the behavior of the agent of the sender is managed by agent parameters;

and wherein on accepting a sending command for commanding sending of an E-mail, agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender are annexed to the main text of the mail having an appended mail header for sending the E-mail;

and wherein after the E-mail is sent, the agent of the sender is not displayed on the screen and the agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender is not appended to the E-mail, so that the agent of the sender is set to be absent until the agent parameters are sent back from a recipient of the E-mail.

10. (previously presented): The method for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 9 wherein the agent parameters sent are changed and the agent parameters thus changed are sent back from the recipient.

11. (currently amended): The method for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 9 wherein an absent state of the agent of the sender is set by a flag showing the agent of the sender is absent or not.

12. (currently amended): The method for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 9 wherein a sending command for designating sending an E-mail by a single agent of the sender and a sending command for designating sending plural E-mails by a single second agent of the sender are selectively accepted; and wherein on accepting the sending command for designating sending an E-mail by a single agent of the sender, the agent parameters determining the agent behavior are annexed to the main text of the E-mail for sending the E-mail.

13. (currently amended): The method for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 12 wherein when the agent of the sender whose behavior is determined by the agent parameters is absent, the E-mail is sent by the second agent of the sender which can be designated sending plural E-mails.

14. (currently amended): An E-mail sending method wherein an agent of a sender of the E-mail is displayed on a screen and the behavior of the agent is managed by agent parameters;

and wherein on accepting a sending command for commanding sending of an E-mail, agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender are annexed to the main text of the mail having an appended mail header for sending the E-mail;

and wherein if the agent parameters are not sent back within a pre-set time, the agent parameters are automatically generated, and the agent of the sender is not displayed on the screen and the agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender is not appended to the E-mail, so that the agent of the sender is set to be absent

after the E-mail is sent until the agent parameters are automatically generated; if the agent parameters are sent back within the pre-set time, the agent of the sender is not displayed on the screen and the agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender is not appended to the E-mail, so that the agent of the sender is set to be absent after the E-mail is sent until the agent parameters are sent back from a recipient of the E-mail;

and wherein a single E-mail is sent by a single agent of the sender.

15. (previously presented): The method for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 14 wherein the agent parameters sent are changed and the agent parameters thus changed are sent back from the recipient.

16. (previously presented): The method for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 15 wherein the agent parameters are changed by learning function.

17. (currently amended): The method for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 14 wherein an absent state of the agent of the sender is set by a flag showing the agent of the sender is absent or not.

18. (currently amended): A method for sending an E-mail wherein an agent of a sender of the E-mail is displayed on a screen and the behavior of the agent is managed by agent parameters;

and wherein on accepting a sending command for commanding sending of an E-mail, agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender are annexed to the main text of the mail having an appended mail header for sending the E-mail;

and wherein after the E-mail is sent, the agent of the sender is made not to send the E-mail;

and wherein a single E-mail is sent by a single agent of the sender.

19. (currently amended): The method for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 18 wherein a sending command for designating sending an E-mail by a single agent

of the sender and a sending command for designating sending plural E-mails by a single second agent of the sender are selectively accepted; and wherein on accepting the sending command for designating sending an E-mail by a single agent of the sender, the agent parameters determining the agent behavior are annexed to the main text of the E-mail for sending the E-mail.

20. (currently amended): An apparatus for sending an E-mail, comprising:
an agent manager for displaying an agent of a sender of the E-mail on a screen and for managing the behavior of the agent of the sender depending on agent parameters;
a sending command accepting means for accepting a sending command designating sending an E-mail; and
a mail sending means which, on accepting a sending command designating sending an E-mail by said sending command accepting means, is controlled by said agent manager for appending the agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender to the mail header or to an annexed main text of the E-mail for sending the E-mail,
wherein said agent manager does not display the agent of the sender on the screen and does not control said mail sending means for appending the agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender, so that sets the agent of the sender is set to be absent after sending the E-mail until a pre-set time elapses.

21. (currently amended): The apparatus for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 20 wherein said agent manager automatically generates the agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender after lapse of the pre-set time.

22. (currently amended): The apparatus for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 20 wherein said agent manager sends an E-mail by the single agent of the sender from said mail sending means.

23. (currently amended): The apparatus for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 21 wherein said agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender includes the sending date and time information; and wherein said agent manager

can append the agent parameters to the main text of an E-mail sent next by said mail sending means after lapse of the pre-set time from the sending date and time based on the sending date and time information.

24. (previously presented): The apparatus for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 20 wherein the agent parameters are changed by learning function.

25. (currently amended): The apparatus for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 20 wherein said agent manager manages the behavior of the agent of the sender by the agent parameters including an environmental information.

26. (currently amended): The apparatus for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 20 wherein said sending command accepting means selectively accepts a sending command for designating sending of a single E-mail by a single agent of the sender or a sending command for designating sending of a plurality of E-mails by a single second agent of the sender and wherein on accepting the sending command for designating sending an E-mail by a single agent of the sender, said agent manager annexes the agent parameters determining the agent behavior to the main text of the E-mail by said mail sending means for sending the E-mail.

27. (currently amended): The apparatus for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 26 wherein when the agent of the sender whose behavior is determined by the agent parameters is absent, said agent manager makes the second agent of the sender which can be designated sending plural E-mails send the E-mail.

28. (currently amended): An apparatus for sending an E-mail, comprising:
an agent manager for displaying an agent of a sender of the E-mail on a screen and for managing the behavior of the agent of the sender depending on agent parameters;
a sending command accepting means for accepting a sending command designating sending an E-mail; and

a mail sending means which, on accepting a sending command designating sending an E-mail by said sending command accepting means, is controlled by said agent manager for appending the agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender to the mail header or to an annexed main text of the E-mail for sending the E-mail,

wherein said agent manager does not display the agent of the sender on the screen and does not control said mail sending means for appending the agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender, so that sets-the agent of the sender is set to be absent after sending the E-mail until the agent parameters are sent back from a recipient of the E-mail.

29. (previously presented): The apparatus for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 28 further comprising an agent parameters receiving means for receiving the agent parameters changed and sent back from the recipient of the E-mail.

30. (currently amended): The apparatus for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 29 wherein said agent manager manages an absent state or the agent of the sender by a flag showing the agent of the sender is absent or not.

31. (currently amended): The apparatus for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 28 wherein said sending command accepting means selectively accepts a sending command for designating sending of a single E-mail by a single agent of the sender or a sending command for designating sending of a plurality of E-mails by a single second agent of the sender and wherein on accepting the sending command for designating sending an E-mail by a single agent of the sender, said agent manager annexes the agent parameters determining the agent behavior to the main text of the E-mail by said mail sending means for sending the E-mail.

32. (currently amended): The apparatus for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 31 wherein when the agent of the sender whose behavior is determined by the agent parameters is absent, said agent manager makes the second agent of the sender which can be designated sending plural E-mails send the E-mail.

33. (currently amended): An apparatus for sending an E-mail, comprising:
an agent manager for displaying an agent of a sender of the E-mail on a screen
and for managing the behavior of the agent of the sender depending on agent parameters;
a sending command accepting means for accepting a sending command
designating sending an E-mail; and
a mail sending means which, on accepting a sending command designating
sending an E-mail by said sending command accepting means, is controlled by said agent
manager for appending the agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the
sender to the mail header or to an annexed main text of the E-mail for sending the E-mail,
wherein if the agent parameters are not sent back within a pre-set time, said agent
manager automatically generates the agent parameters, and said agent manager does not
display the agent of the sender of the screen and does not control said mail sending means
for appending the agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender,
so that sets-the agent of the sender is set to be absent after the E-mail is sent until said
agent manager automatically generates the agent parameters, if the agent parameters are
sent back within the pre-set time, said agent manager does not display the agent of the
sender on the screen and does not control said mail sending means for appending the
agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender, so that sets-the
agent of the sender is set to be absent after the E-mail is sent until the agent parameters
are sent back from a recipient of the E-mail;
and wherein a single E-mail is sent by a single agent of the sender.

34. (previously presented): The apparatus for sending an E-mail as claimed in
claim 33 further comprising an agent parameters receiving means for receiving the agent
parameters changed and sent back from the recipient of the E-mail.

35. (previously presented): The apparatus for sending an E-mail as claimed in
claim 33 wherein the agent parameters are changed by learning function.

36. (currently amended): The apparatus for sending an E-mail as claimed in claim 33 wherein said agent manager manages an absent state of the agent of the sender by a flag showing the agent of the sender is absent or not.

37. (currently amended): An E-mail sending program product supplying medium for supplying an E-mail sending program that can be read out and executed by a computer ~~wherein~~including:

a program code module which displays an agent is displayed of a sender of the E-mail on a screen and manages the behavior of the agent of the sender is managed by agent parameters; and ~~wherein~~

a program code module which annexes, on accepting a sending command for commanding sending of an E-mail, agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender are annexed to the main text of the mail having an appended mail header for sending the E-mail;

and wherein after the E-mail is sent, the agent of the sender is not displayed on the screen and the agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender is not appended to the E-mail, so that the agent of the sender is set to be absent until a pre-set time elapses.

38. (currently amended): The ~~medium~~program product of claim 37 wherein the agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender are automatically generated after lapse of the pre-set time.

39. (currently amended): The ~~medium~~program product of claim 37 wherein a single E-mail is sent by a single agent of the sender.

40. (currently amended): The ~~medium~~program product of claim 38 wherein the agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender include the sending date and time information and can be annexed to the main text of an E-mail sent next after lapse of the pre-set time based on the sending date and time information.

41. (currently amended): The ~~medium~~program product of claim 37 wherein the agent parameters are changed by learning function.

42. (currently amended): The ~~medium~~program product of claim 37 wherein the behavior of the agent of the sender is managed by the agent parameters including environmental information.

43. (currently amended): The ~~medium~~program product of claim 37 wherein a sending command for designating sending an E-mail by a single agent of the sender and a sending command for designating sending plural E-mails by a single second agent of the sender are selectively accepted; and wherein on accepting the sending command for designating sending an E-mail by a single agent of the sender, the agent parameters determining the agent behavior are annexed to the main text of the E-mail for sending the E-mail.

44. (currently amended): The ~~medium~~program product of claim 43 wherein when the agent of the sender whose behavior is determined by the agent parameters is absent, the E-mail is sent by the second agent of the sender which can be designated sending plural E-mails.

45. (currently amended): An E-mail sending program ~~productsupplying medium for supplying an E-mail sending program~~ that can be read out and executed by a computer ~~wherein including:~~

a program code module which displays an agent is displayed of a sender of the E-mail on a screen and manages the behavior of the agent of the sender ~~is managed by~~ agent parameters; and ~~wherein~~

a program code module which annexes, on accepting a sending command for commanding sending of an E-mail, agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender ~~are annexed to~~ the main text of the mail having an appended mail header for sending the E-mail;

and wherein after the E-mail is sent, the agent of the sender is not displayed on the screen and the agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender is not appended to the E-mail, so that the agent of the sender is set to be absent until the agent parameters are sent back from a recipient of the E-mail.

46. (currently amended): The ~~medium~~program product of claim 45 wherein the agent parameters sent are changed and the agent parameters thus changed are sent back from the recipient.

47. (currently amended): The ~~medium~~program product of claim 45 wherein an absent state of the agent of the sender is set by a flag showing the agent of the sender is absent or not.

48. (currently amended): The ~~medium~~program product of claim 45 wherein a sending command for designating sending an E-mail by a single agent of the sender and a sending command for designating sending plural E-mails by a single second agent of the sender are selectively accepted; and wherein on accepting the sending command for designating sending an E-mail by a single agent of the sender, the agent parameters determining the agent behavior are annexed to the main text of the E-mail for sending the E-mail.

49. (currently amended): The ~~medium~~program product of claim 48 wherein when the agent of the sender whose behavior is determined by the agent parameters is absent, the E-mail is sent by the second agent of the sender which can be designated sending plural E-mails.

50. (currently amended): An E-mail sending program product supplying medium for supplying an E-mail sending program that can be read out and executed by a computer wherein including:

a program code module which annexes, an agent is displayed of a sender of the E-mail on a screen and manages the behavior of the agent of the sender is managed by agent parameters; and wherein

a program code module which annexes, on accepting a sending command for commanding sending of an E-mail, agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender are annexed to the main text of the mail having an appended mail header for sending the E-mail;

and wherein if the agent parameters are not sent back within a pre-set time, the agent parameters are automatically generated, and the agent of the sender is not displayed on the screen and the agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender is not appended to the E-mail, so that the agent of the sender is set to be absent after the E-mail is sent until the agent parameters are automatically generated, if the agent parameters are sent back within the pre-set time, the agent of the sender is not displayed on the screen and the agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent of the sender is not appended to the E-mail, so that the agent of the sender is set to be absent after the E-mail is sent until the agent parameters are sent back from a recipient of the E-mail;

and wherein a single E-mail is sent by a single agent of the sender.

51. (currently amended): The mediumprogram product of claim 50 wherein the agent parameters sent are changed and the agent parameters thus changed are sent back from the recipient.

52. (currently amended): The mediumprogram product of claim 50 wherein the agent parameters are changed by learning function.

53. (currently amended): The mediumprogram product of claim 50 wherein an absent state of the agent of the sender is set by a flag showing the agent of the sender is absent or not.

54. (currently amended): An E-mail sending program ~~supplying medium for supplying an E-mail sending program product~~ that can be read out and executed by a computer ~~wherein~~including:

a program code module which displays an agent ~~is displayed of a sender of the E-mail~~ on a screen and manages the behavior of the agent ~~of the sender is managed by~~ agent parameters; and ~~wherein~~

a program code module which annexes, on accepting a sending command for commanding sending of an E-mail, agent parameters determining the behavior of the agent ~~of the sender are annexed~~ to the main text of the mail having an appended mail header for sending the E-mail;

and wherein after the E-mail is sent, the agent of the sender is made not to send the E-mail;

and wherein a single E-mail is sent by a single agent of the sender.

55. (currently amended): The ~~medium~~program product of claim 54 wherein a sending command for designating sending an E-mail by a single agent of the sender and a sending command for designating sending plural E-mails by a single second agent of the sender are selectively accepted; and wherein on accepting the sending command for designating sending an E-mail by a single agent of the sender, the agent parameters determining the agent behavior are annexed to the main text of the E-mail for sending the E-mail.

56. (currently amended): A method for receiving an E-mail wherein on accepting a receiving command for commanding receiving of an E-mail, the E-mail with which agent parameters for managing a behavior of an agent of a sender of the E-mail are annexed is received;

and wherein the agent of the sender is displayed on a screen, the behavior of the agent of the sender is controlled according to the agent parameters annexed to the main text of the E-mail;

and wherein the agent parameters are automatically sent back to a sender of the E-mail.

57. (previously presented): The method for receiving an E-mail as claimed in claim 56 wherein the agent parameters annexed to the main text of the E-mail received are changed and automatically sent back to the sender of the E-mail.

58. (previously presented): The method for receiving an E-mail as claimed in claim 57 wherein the agent parameters annexed to the main text of the E-mail received are changed based on an event generated and automatically sent back to the sender of the E-mail.

59. (previously presented): The method for receiving an E-mail as claimed in claim 56 wherein the agent parameters are changed based on an interaction with an agent of the recipient and automatically sent back to the sender of the E-mail.

60. (previously presented): The method for receiving an E-mail as claimed in claim 56 wherein the agent parameters are changed by learning function.

61. (previously presented): The method for receiving an E-mail as claimed in claim 56 wherein a receiving date and time of the E-mail is checked and it is judged whether it is within a lifetime period of the E-mail or not based on a sending date and time information and a mail lifetime information included in the agent parameters annexed to the E-mail;

and wherein if it is within the lifetime period of the E-mail, the agent parameters changed is automatically sent back to the sender of the E-mail.

62. (currently amended): The method for receiving an E-mail as claimed in claim 56 wherein a message showing that the E-mail, with which the agent parameters for managing the behavior of the agent of the sender is annexed, is received is further automatically sent to the sender of the E-mail.

63. (previously presented): The method for receiving an E-mail as claimed in claim 56 wherein agent parameters of a recipient is changed based on an interaction with the agent of a sender.

64. (currently amended): The method for receiving an E-mail as claimed in claim 56 wherein when the agent of the sender is displayed on the screen and the behavior of the agent of the sender is controlled according to the agent parameters annexed to the main text of the E-mail, if image data of the agent of the sender corresponding to the agent parameters is not stored at a recipient side, a pre-set character is displayed in place of the agent of the sender.

65. (currently amended): An apparatus for receiving an E-mail comprising:
a reception command accepting means for accepting a command for receiving an E-mail;

a reception means for receiving an E-mail with which agent parameters for managing a behavior of an agent of a sender of the E-mail are annexed on accepting the reception command commanding reception of the E-mail by said reception command accepting means;

an agent manager for controlling the behavior of the agent of the sender according to the agent parameters annexed to the main text of the E-mail received by said reception means for displaying the agent of the sender on a screen; and

an agent parameters replying means for automatically sending back the agent parameters to a sender of the E-mail.

66. (currently amended): The apparatus for receiving an E-mail as claimed in claim 65 further comprising:

an operation input means for inputting an operation to the agent of the sender displayed on the screen by a user; and

an agent parameters changing means for changing the agent parameters annexed to the main text of the E-mail received by said reception means according to the user operation by said operation input means;

wherein said agent parameters replying means automatically sends back the agent parameters changed by said agent parameters changing means to the sender of the E-mail.

67. (previously presented): The apparatus for receiving an E-mail as claimed in claim 66 wherein said agent parameters changing means changes the agent parameters annexed to the main text of the E-mail received based on an event generated.

68. (previously presented): The apparatus for receiving an E-mail as claimed in claim 67 wherein said agent manager changes the agent parameters by said agent parameters changing means based on an interaction with an agent of the recipient displayed on the screen and the agent of the sender whose behavior is controlled according to the agent parameters.

69. (previously presented): The apparatus for receiving an E-mail as claimed in claim 68 wherein the agent parameters are changed by learning function.

70. (previously presented): The apparatus for receiving an E-mail as claimed in claim 68 wherein said agent parameters replying means checks a receiving date and time of the E-mail and judges whether it is within a lifetime period of the E-mail or not based on a sending date and time information and a mail lifetime information included in the agent parameters annexed to the E-mail;

and wherein if it is within the lifetime period of the E-mail, said agent parameters replying means automatically sends back the agent parameters changed to the sender of the E-mail.

71. (currently amended): The apparatus for receiving an E-mail as claimed in claim 65 further comprising a confirmation message replying means for automatically

sending back a message showing that the E-mail, with which the agent parameters for managing the behavior of the agent of the sender is annexed, is received to the sender of the E-mail.

72. (previously presented): The apparatus for receiving an E-mail as claimed in claim 65 wherein said agent manager changes the agent parameters of a recipient based on an interaction with the agent of a sender.

73. (currently amended): The apparatus for receiving an E-mail as claimed in claim 65 wherein said agent manager, when displaying the agent of the sender on the screen and controlling the behavior of the agent of the sender according to the agent parameters annexed to the main text of the E-mail, if image data of the agent of the sender corresponding to the agent parameters is not stored at a recipient side, displays a pre-set character in place of the agent of the sender.

74. (currently amended): An E-mail receiving program product ~~supplying medium for supplying an E-mail receiving program~~ that can be read out and executed by a computer ~~wherein~~ including:

a program code module which receives, on accepting a receiving command for commanding receiving of an E-mail, the E-mail with which agent parameters for managing a behavior of an agent of the sender are annexed ~~is received; and wherein~~

a program code module which displays the agent ~~is displayed of the sender~~ on a screen, and controls the behavior of the agent of the sender ~~is controlled~~ according to the agent parameters annexed to the main text of the E-mail;

a program code module which automatically sends and wherein the agent parameters ~~are automatically sent back~~ to a sender of the E-mail.

75. (currently amended): The ~~medium-program~~ product of claim 74 wherein the agent parameters annexed to the main text of the E-mail received are changed and automatically sent back to the sender of the E-mail.

76. (currently amended): The ~~medium-program product~~ of claim 75 wherein the agent parameters annexed to the main text of the E-mail received are changed based on an event generated and automatically sent back to the sender of the E-mail.

77. (currently amended): The ~~medium-program product~~ of claim 74 wherein the agent parameters are changed based on an interaction with an agent of the recipient and automatically sent back to the sender of the E-mail.

78. (currently amended): The ~~medium-program product~~ of claim 75 wherein the agent parameters are changed by learning function.

79. (currently amended): The ~~mediumprogram product~~ of claim 75 wherein a receiving date and time of the E-mail is checked and it is judged whether it is within a lifetime period of the E-mail or not based on a sending date and time information and a mail lifetime information included in the agent parameters annexed to the E-mail;

and wherein if it is within the lifetime, period of the E-mail, the agent parameters changed is automatically sent back to the sender of the E-mail.

80. (currently amended): The ~~mediumprogram product~~ of claim 74 wherein a message showing that the E-mail, with which the agent parameters for managing the behavior of the agent of the sender is annexed, is received is further automatically sent to the sender of the E-mail.

81. (currently amended): The ~~mediumprogram product~~ of claim 74 wherein agent parameters of a recipient is changed based on an interaction with the agent of a sender.

82. (currently amended): The ~~medium-program product~~ of claim 74 wherein when the agent of the sender is displayed on the screen and the behavior of the agent of the sender is controlled according to the agent parameters annexed to the main text of the E-mail, if image data of the agent of the sender corresponding to the agent parameters is

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not stored at a recipient side, a pre-set character is displayed in place of the agent of the sender.